

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MASERU 00084 271351Z

53

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 L-02 NSC-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 RSC-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 IO-10

/045 W

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R 271306Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY MASERU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4630

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMCONSUL DURBAN

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CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, LT

SUBJECT: TREASON TRIAL; DEFENSE CONCLUDES CASE

REF: MASERU 61

1. DEFENSE IN LESOTHO TREASON TRIAL COMPLETED ITS CASE JANUARY 24 AFTER CALLING AS WITNESSES ONLY 8 OF ACCUSED. TRIAL TO RESUME JANUARY 28 WITH ARGUMENTS BY PROSECUTION.

2. EMBASSY TOLD BY DEFENSE COUNSEL IT HAD BEEN DECIDED TO CALL ONLY CERTAIN OF ACCUSED TO GIVE EVIDENCE. PRESUMABLY DEFENSE THOUGHT THESE 8 HAD SOMETHING TO GAIN FROM TELLING OWN STORY BUT MOST LESS THAN SUCCESSFUL IN EXTRICATING THEMSELVES FROM WEB OF PREVIOUS PROSECUTION-LED TESTIMONY AGAINST THEM. DEFENSE COUNSEL APPEARED TO CONCEDE GUILTY VERDICT AGAINST BULK OF REMAINING DEFENDANTS, SAYING IT WOULD BE OF NO USE TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 MASERU 00084 271351Z

CALL OTHER WITNESSES NOW ALTHOUGH SOME MAY BE CALLED AFTER JUDGMENT T

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HELP SUPPORT MITIGATION ON SENTENCING.

3. DEFENDANTS NOW NUMBER 26. COURT GRANTED MOTION TO DISMISS
THREE ADDITIONAL DEFENDANTS (REFTEL), INCLUDING SHAKHANE
MOKHEHLE, BEST-KNOWN OF DEFENDANTS AS TREASURER OF BCP AND
BROTHER OF BCP LEADER NTSU MOKHEHLE.
HAUGHT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TREASON, TRIALS
Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 27 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
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Film Number: D750029-0756
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Reference: 75 MASERU 61
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 AUG 2003
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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